

CONFIDENTIAL FILING

June 23, 2015

VIA OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Confidential Financial Information - Subject to Protective Order in WC Docket Nos. 10-90, 07-135, 05-337, 03-109, 14-58, CC Docket Nos. 01-92, 96-45, GN Docket No. 09-51, WT Docket No. 10-208, Before the Federal Communications Commission.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Wheat State Telephone, Inc. ("Wheat State"), a privately-held rate of return carrier receiving high cost support, has electronically submitted FCC Form 481 to the Commission with redacted Line 3005 financial data. Wheat State respectfully provides the Commission with its confidential financial data so that all its reporting obligations are satisfied.

Wheat State respectfully submits confidential information in compliance with 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313 and 54.422, under seal, as specified with the Protective Order adopted on November 16, 2012 ("Protective Order") and also in conjunction with 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.457 and 0.459. Further justification for this confidential filing is identified below in accordance with 47 C.F.R. §0.459 (b).

Wheat State requests confidential treatment of certain information submitted with its annual reporting requirements as a privately-held rate of return carrier and high-cost recipient in Docket No. 10-90. The confidential information is required by 47 C.F.R. § 54.313 (f)(2) and includes detailed financial information that is competitively sensitive. Disclosure of this confidential information would have a substantial negative impact on Wheat State. Such information would not normally be made available to the public for inspection because of the financial information and should be afforded confidential treatment under both 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.457 and 0.459.

47 C.F.R. § 049(b): Information provided by Wheat State includes specific information related to financial data and is subject to protection for the following reasons:

47 C.F.R. § 049(b)(1) Identification of the specific information for which confidential treatment is sought:

Wheat State requests that all financial data, and loop/subscriber counts and route mile data be treated on a confidential basis under Exemption 4 of the Freedom of Information Act. Wheat State maintains this information is confidential, competitively sensitive data not normally made available to the public. Release of this information would have a substantial negative competitive impact on Wheat State. The non-redacted version of the cover letter for Wheat State's submission and each page of the file containing confidential information is marked, "CONFIDENTIAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER IN WC DOCKET NOS. 10-90, 07-135, 05-337, 03-109, CC DOCKET NOS. 01-92, 96-45, GN DOCKET NO. 09-51, WT DOCKET NO. 10-208, BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION."

47 C.F.R. § 0459(b)(2) Identification of the Commission proceeding in which the information was submitted:

The information is being submitted in compliance with 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(f)(2) and is to be filed in WC Docket No. 10-90. Privately held rate of return carriers that receive high-cost support must complete the FCC Form 481 to include a full and complete annual support of the company's financial condition and operations as of the end of the preceding fiscal year (sections of which Wheat State is requesting be afforded confidential treatment).

47 C.F.R. § 0459(b)(3) Explanation of the degree to which the information is commercial or financial or contains a trade secret or is privileged:

The information designated as confidential is detailed financial information including a balance sheet, income statement, cash flow statement that is competitively sensitive information not normally released to the public. Release of any of this commercial or financial information would have a substantial negative competitive impact on Wheat State.

47 C.F.R. § 0459(b)(4) &(5) Explanation of the degree to which the information concerns a service that is subject to competition and how disclosure of the information could result in substantial competitive harm:

This type of commercial and financial information is generally not subject to routine public inspection under the Commission's rules (47 C.F.R. § 0.457(d)), demonstrating that the Commission already anticipates that the release of this type of information likely would produce competitive harm. Release of the information designated as confidential would allow competitors to become aware of sensitive proprietary information regarding the operation of Wheat State's business and would cause Wheat State substantial competitive harm.

47 C.F.R. § 0459(b)(6)&(7) Identification of measures taken by the Company to prevent unauthorized disclosure: availability of the information to the public and extent of any previous disclosure of the information to third parties:

Wheat State treats and has treated the non-public information included in this submission as confidential and has protected it from disclosure to parties outside the Company. Any financial information required to be submitted to a state regulatory authority has been filed as confidential information, not available to the public, in accordance with state rules and/or statutes.

47 C.F.R. § 0459(b)(8) Justification of the period during which the Company asserts that material should not be available for public disclosure:

Wheat State cannot determine any date on which this information should not be considered confidential. However Wheat State does believe that this information should be treated confidential for a minimum of 10 years.

47 C.F.R. § 0459(b)(8) Other information the Company believes may be useful in assessing whether its request for confidentiality be granted:

Under applicable Commission rules and court rulings, the information designated by the Company as confidential should be withheld from public disclosure. Exemption 4 of the Freedom of Information Act protects information that is commercial or financial in nature; obtained from a person outside government; and privileged or confidential.

As specified in the Protective Order, two copies of the redacted confidential information are being filed simultaneously with the non-redacted confidential information. The redacted information for this filing and each page of the file where confidential information has been omitted is marked "REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION".

Please feel free to contact me with any questions regarding this particular matter.

Sincerely,

Arturo G. Macias, General Manager
Wheat State Telephone, Inc.

Enclosures

.cc Mr. Charles Tyler, FCC Telecommunications Access Policy Division
Kansas Corporation Commission

**FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010> Study Area Code	411847
<015> Study Area Name	WHEAT STATE TEL, INC
<020> Program Year	2016
<030> Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data	Carrie L Loos
<035> Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line <030>	6207823341 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030>	cloos@wheatstate.com

ANNUAL REPORTING FOR ALL CARRIERS		54.313 Completion Required	54.422 Completion Required
		(check box when complete)	
<100> Service Quality Improvement Reporting	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<200> Outage Reporting (voice)	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<210> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> --- check box if no outages to report		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<300> Unfulfilled Service Requests (voice)	0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<310> Detail on Attempts (voice)	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div> (attach descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<320> Unfulfilled Service Requests (broadband)	0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<330> Detail on Attempts (broadband)	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div> (attach descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<400> Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (voice)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<410> Fixed	0.0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<420> Mobile	0.0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<430> Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (broadband)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<440> Fixed	0.0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<450> Mobile	0.0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<500> Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Rules Compliance	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<510> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">411847KS510.pdf</div>	(attached descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<600> Functionality in Emergency Situations	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<610> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">411847KS610.pdf</div>	(attached descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<700> Company Price Offerings (voice)	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<710> Company Price Offerings (broadband)	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<800> Operating Companies and Affiliates	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<900> Tribal Land Offerings (Y/N)?	(if yes, complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1000> Voice Services Rate Comparability Certification	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1010> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">411847KS1010.pdf</div>	(attach descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1100> Certify whether terrestrial backhaul options exist (Yes or No)	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> (if not, check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1110>	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1200> Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Price Cap Carriers, Proceed to Price Cap Additional Documentation Worksheet			
Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers			
<2000>	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<2005>	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rate of Return Carriers, Proceed to ROR Additional Documentation Worksheet			
<3000>	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<3005>	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**(100) Service Quality Improvement Reporting
Data Collection Form**

 FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
 July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	411847
<015>	Study Area Name	WHEAT STATE TEL. INC
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Carrie L. Loos
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6207823341 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	clloos@wheatstate.com
<110>	Has your company received its ETC certification from the FCC? If your answer to Line <110> is yes, do you have an existing § 54.202(a) "5 year plan" filed with the FCC?	(yes / no) <input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> (yes / no) <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
<111>		

If your answer to Line <111> is yes, then you are required to file a progress report, on line <112> delineating the status of your company's existing § 54.202(a) "5 year plan" on file with the FCC, as it relates to your provision of voice telephony service.

<112> Attach Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan or, in subsequent years, your annual progress report filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1). If your company is a CETC which only receives frozen support, your progress report is only required to address voice telephony service.

41184782112.xlsx, 5yr Plan Progress Maps.pdf

Name of Attached Document

Please select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 112, contains a progress report on its five-year service quality improvement plan pursuant to § 54.202(a). The information shall be submitted at the wire center level or census block as appropriate.

- | | | |
|-------|--|-----|
| <113> | Maps detailing progress towards meeting plan targets | Yes |
| <114> | Report how much universal service (USF) support was received | Yes |
| <115> | How much (USF) was used to improve service quality and how support was used to improve service quality | Yes |
| <116> | How much (USF) was used to improve service coverage and how support was used to improve service coverage | Yes |
| <117> | How much (USF) was used to improve service capacity and how support was used to improve service capacity | Yes |
| <118> | Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year. | Yes |

<01>	Study Area Code	411847
<01>	Study Area Name	WHEAT STATE T&I, INC
<02>	Program Year	2016
<03>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Carrie L. Loos
<03>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <03>	8207823341 ext.
<03>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <03>	cloos@wheatstate.com

[illegible]

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	421847
<015>	Study Area Name	WHEAT STATE TEL., INC
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Cortis L. Lopez
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	4207823361 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	clopez@wheatstate.com
<701>	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	1/1/2015
<702>	Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge	

[illegible]

<010>	Study Area Code	411847
<015>	Study Area Name	WHEAT STATE TEL, INC
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Carrie L. Long
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6207823341 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	c.long@wheatstate.com

[illegible]

<010>	Study Area Code	911847
<015>	Study Area Name	WHEAT STATE TEL. INC
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Carrie L. Ilog
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6207823341 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	cillog@wheatstate.com
<810>	Reporting Carrier	Wheat State Telephone, Inc.
<811>	Holding Company	Golden Wheat, Inc.
<812>	Operating Company	Wheat State Telephone, Inc.

[illegible]

Journal of Management Inquiry 22(4) 399-414

If your company serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes, No, NA) for each of these boxes to confirm the status described on the attached document(s), on line 920, demonstrates coordination with the Tribal government pursuant to § 54.313(a)(9) includes:

<921>	Needs assessment and deployment planning with a focus on Tribal community anchor institutions.
<922>	Feasibility and sustainability planning.
<923>	Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;
<924>	Compliance with Rights of way processes
<925>	Compliance with Land Use permitting requirements
<926>	Compliance with Facilities Siting rules
<927>	Compliance with Environmental Review processes
<928>	Compliance with Cultural Preservation review processes
<929>	Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.

[illegible]

**(1100) No Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	411847
<015>	Study Area Name	WHEAT STATE TEL, INC
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Carrie L. Loos
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6207823341 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	cloos@wheatstate.com

<1120> Please confirm whether terrestrial backhaul options exist within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(g) (Yes, No).

<1130> Please select the appropriate response (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(g).

(1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers**Lifeline****Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	411847
<015>	Study Area Name	WHEAT STATE TEL, INC
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Gertie L Loos
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6207823341 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	cloos@wheatstate.com

411847NS1210.pdf

<1210> Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans

Name of Attached Document

<1220> Link to Public Website

HTTP

<http://newportal.wheatstate.com/>

*Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:

<1221> Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers, ☒

<1222> Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan, ☒

<1223> Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan. ☒

(2000) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation
Data Collection Form

Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers

FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
 July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	411667
<015>	Study Area Name	WISCONSIN STATE TEL. INC.
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	CARROLL, J. LOUIS
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	0201623341 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	CLOO@WISCONSINTELINC.COM

Select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental Connect America Phase I support, Frozen High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e). The information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting

- <2010> 2nd Year Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)(i))
 <2011a> 3rd Year Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)(ii))

- <2011b> Attachment (47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)(iii))

Price Cap Carrier Receiving Frozen Support Certification (47 CFR § 54.312(a))

- <2012> 2013 Frozen Support Calculation (47 CFR § 54.313(c)(1)(i))
 <2013> 2014 Frozen Support Calculation (47 CFR § 54.313(c)(2)(i))
 <2014> 2015 Frozen Support Calculation (47 CFR § 54.313(c)(3)(i))
 <2015> 2016 and future Frozen Support Calculation (47 CFR § 54.313(c)(4)(i))

Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support (47 CFR § 54.313(d))

Certification Support Used to Build Broadband

Connect America Phase II Reporting (47 CFR § 54.313(e))

- <2017> 3rd year Broadband Service Certification
 <2018> 5th year Broadband Service Certification
 <2019> Interim Progress Certification

<2020> Please check the box to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 2021, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(e)(3)(ii), as a recipient of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.

- <2021> Interim Progress Community Anchor Institutions

Name of Attached Document(s) Listing Required Information

Name of Attached Document(s) Listing Required Information

(3000) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation
Data Collection Form

<010>	Study Area Code	411847
<015>	Study Area Name	WHEAT STATE TEL., INC.
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Carrie L. Jones
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	620.782.3341 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	c.l.jones@wheatstate.com

CHECK the boxes below to note compliance on its five year service quality plan (pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.202(a)) and, for privately held carriers, ensuring compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

(3010) Progress Report on 5 Year Plan
Milestone Certification [47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i)]

41184783010.docx

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

Please check this box to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 3012 contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(1)(i). The carrier shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.

☐

(3012) Community Anchor Institutions [47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(ii)]

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3013) Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier [47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2)]

(3014) If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report

☐ (Yes/No)
☐ (Yes/No)

Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires:

(3015) Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers)

☒

(3016) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

☒

(3017) If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation

41184783017.pdf

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

☐ (Yes/No)
☐ (Yes/No)

(3018) If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited?

If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:

(3019) Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications

☐

(3020) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

☐

(3021) Management letter and audit opinion issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit

☐

If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:

(3022) Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or 2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers.

☐

(3023) Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified public accountant

☐

(3024) Underlying information subjected to an officer certification.

☐

(3025) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

☐

(3026) Attach the worksheet listing required information

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

**Certification - Reporting Carrier
Data Collection Form**

 FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
 July 2013

<010> Study Area Code	411847
<015> Study Area Name	WHEAT STATE TEL, INC
<020> Program Year	2016
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Carrie L. Loos
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6207823341 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	cloos@wheatstate.com

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients	
I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier: WHEAT STATE TEL, INC	
Signature of Authorized Officer: CERTIFIED ONLINE	Date: 06/22/2015
Printed name of Authorized Officer: Arturo Macias	
Title or position of Authorized Officer: General Manager	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer: 6207823341 ext.	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: 411847	Filing Due Date for this form: 07/01/2015
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

**Certification - Agent / Carrier
Data Collection Form**

 FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0985/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
 July 2013

<010> Study Area Code	411847
<015> Study Area Name	WHEAT STATE TEL, INC
<020> Program Year	2016
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Carrie L. Loos
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6207823341 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	cloos@wheatstate.com

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:

Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I certify that (Name of Agent) _____ is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.	
Name of Authorized Agent: _____	
Name of Reporting Carrier: _____	
Signature of Authorized Officer: _____	Date: _____
Printed name of Authorized Officer: _____	
Title or position of Authorized Officer: _____	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer: _____	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: _____	Filing Due Date for this form: _____
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier: _____	
Name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	Date: _____
Printed name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: _____	Filing Due Date for this form: _____
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

Attachments

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

411847

WHEAT STATE TEL, INC

2016

Carrie L. Loos

6207823341 ext.

clous@wheatstate.com

1/1/2015

1

[illegible]

**(710) Broadband Price Offerings
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	411847
<015>	Study Area Name	WHEAT STATE TEL. INC
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Carrie L Loos
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6207823341 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	cloos@wheatstate.com

<a1>	<a2>	<b1>	<b2>	<c>	<d1>	<d2>	<d3>	<d4>
State	Exchange (ILEC)	Residential Rate	State Regulated Fees	Total Rates and Fees	Broadband Service - Download Speed (Mbps)	Broadband Service - Upload Speed (Mbps)	Usage Allowance (GB)	Usage Allowance Action Taken When Limit Reached (select)
KS	All exchanges	69.99	0.0	69.99	25.0	5.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	All exchanges	59.99	0.0	59.99	25.0	5.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	All exchanges	49.99	0.0	49.99	15.0	3.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	All exchanges	39.99	0.0	39.99	15.0	3.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	All exchanges	39.99	0.0	39.99	10.0	2.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	All exchanges	29.99	0.0	29.99	10.0	2.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	All exchanges	29.99	0.0	29.99	5.0	1.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	All exchanges	19.99	0.0	19.99	5.0	1.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	Udall	74.95	0.0	74.95	6.0	1.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	Udall	49.95	0.0	49.95	6.0	1.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	Udall	69.95	0.0	69.95	3.0	0.512	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	Udall	45.0	0.0	45.0	3.0	0.512	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	Udall	49.95	0.0	49.95	1.54	0.384	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	Udall	30.0	0.0	30.0	1.54	0.384	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	Rock	74.95	0.0	74.95	6.0	1.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	Rock	49.95	0.0	49.95	6.0	1.0	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	Rock	69.95	0.0	69.95	3.0	0.512	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	Rock	45.0	0.0	45.0	3.0	0.512	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	Rock	49.95	0.0	49.95	1.54	0.384	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
KS	Rock	30.0	0.0	30.0	1.54	0.384	999999.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	411847
<015>	Study Area Name	WHEAT STATE TEL, INC
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Carrie L. Ioda
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6207823361 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	clioda@wheatstate.com
<810>	Reporting Carrier	Wheat State Telephone, Inc.
<811>	Holding Company	Golden Wheat, Inc.
<812>	Operating Company	Wheat State Telephone, Inc.

[illegible]

REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

Response Line 510
Wheat State Telephone, Inc.
Study Area 411847

Voice - Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(5) and or 47 C.F.R. § 54.422(b)(3) Wheat State Telephone, Inc. ("Wheat State") is in compliance with appropriate FCC Service Quality Standards, Consumer Protection Rules, Kansas billing practice standards and quality of service standards.

Wheat State provides CPNI training to all of its new employees and in addition trains all of its existing employees on an annual basis. Wheat State also conducts subscriber outreach regarding CPNI by periodically placing CPNI explanation messages into subscriber's bills and also has signage in its business office regarding CPNI rules and regulations. In addition Wheat State trains staff on Red Flag issues on an annual basis. All company employees are required to sign and acknowledge that they have completed CPNI and Red Flag training and understand obligations to adherence of applicable rules.

Wheat State has submitted quarterly LEC Quality of Service metrics with the Kansas Corporation Commission ("KCC") and has not had failing benchmarks. Wheat State is able to accomplish meeting the metrics by ensuring employees are properly trained, equipment is kept operational and spare equipment is available when needed. Wheat State is properly staffed to exceed quality of service benchmarks. Lastly, Wheat State is in full compliance with KCC billing practices standards including itemizing service and service charges, and taxes. Wheat State also provides alternative billing and has a link on its website where subscribers can view and pay their bills. Wheat State has updated its billing system and trained its employees to insure that it is in compliance with standards for payment, deposits, and disconnection procedures.

Broadband - Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(5) and or 47 C.F.R. § 54.422(b)(3) Wheat State Telephone, Inc. ("Wheat State") is in compliance with appropriate FCC Service Quality Standards, Consumer Protection Rules, Kansas billing practice standards and quality of service standards.

Wheat State provides CPNI training to all of its new employees and in addition trains all of its existing employees on an annual basis. Wheat State also conducts subscriber outreach regarding CPNI by periodically placing CPNI explanation messages into subscriber's bills and also has signage in its business office regarding CPNI rules and regulations. In addition Wheat State trains staff on Red Flag issues on an annual basis. All company employees are required to sign and acknowledge that they have completed CPNI and Red Flag training and understand obligations to adherence of applicable rules.

Wheat State has submitted quarterly LEC Quality of Service metrics with the Kansas Corporation Commission ("KCC") and has not had failing benchmarks. Wheat State is able to accomplish meeting the metrics by ensuring employees are properly trained, equipment is kept operational and spare equipment is available when needed. Wheat State is properly staffed to exceed quality of service benchmarks. Lastly, Wheat State is in full compliance with KCC billing practices standards including itemizing service and service charges, and taxes. Wheat State also provides alternative billing and has a

link on its website where subscribers can view and pay their bills. Wheat State has updated its billing system and trained its employees to insure that it is in compliance with standards for payment, deposits, and disconnection procedures.

Response Line 610
Wheat State Telephone, Inc.
Study Area 411847

Functionality in Emergency Situations:

Voice - Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(6) and 47 C.F.R. § 54.22(b)(4) as set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 54.202(a)(2) Wheat State Telephone, Inc. ("Wheat State") meets the requirements to remain functional in emergency situations and has the following capabilities: Wheat State's central office and remote offices are all equipped with batteries and natural gas generators that provide a minimum of 8 hours of uninterrupted power with an almost unlimited back up supply of fuel for generators to recharge batteries in cases of loss of power. In addition, Wheat State is in the process of upgrading its network and is deploying FTTH technology and has supplied FTTH homes with 8 hours of battery back up at the optical network terminal at the subscriber home.

Wheat State has deployed SONET and Ethernet network technologies in its network. In addition, Wheat State has properly prepared itself for any network outages by having redundant and diverse routing in place to manage any outages and has purchased spare cards for all of its core network equipment for fast replacement should there be a card failure. In instance of fiber cuts, Wheat State has its own fiber technicians and fiber splice equipment in house to assist in an expeditious repair of any fiber cuts. For added security Wheat State has connectivity with the AT&T Wichita tandem and also has connectivity to the Kansas Fiber Network. Both of these options provide Wheat State with diverse options to reroute traffic should an emergency situation arise.

Lastly, Wheat State has developed network preparedness plans in cases of emergency situations. Wheat State has sufficient capacity within its switching network to handle call spikes in emergency situations and its staff has been sufficiently trained of preparedness plans to minimize any and all outages during emergency situations.

Broadband - Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(6) and 47 C.F.R. § 54.22(b)(4) as set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 54.202(a)(2) Wheat State Telephone, Inc. ("Wheat State") meets the requirements to remain functional in emergency situations and has the following capabilities: Wheat State's central office and remote offices are all equipped with batteries and natural gas generators that provide a minimum of 8 hours of uninterrupted power with an almost unlimited back up supply of fuel for generators to recharge batteries in cases of loss of power. In addition, Wheat State is in the process of upgrading its network and is deploying FTTH technology and has supplied FTTH homes with 8 hours of battery back up at the optical network terminal at the subscriber home.

Wheat State has deployed SONET and Ethernet network technologies in its network. In addition, Wheat State has properly prepared itself for any network outages by having redundant and diverse routing in place to manage any outages and has purchased spare cards for all of its core network equipment for fast replacement should there be a card failure. In instance of fiber cuts, Wheat State has its own fiber technicians and fiber splice equipment in house to assist in an expeditious repair of any fiber cuts. For

added security Wheat State has connectivity with the AT&T Wichita tandem and also has connectivity to the Kansas Fiber Network. Both of these options provide Wheat State with diverse options to reroute traffic should an emergency situation arise.

Lastly, Wheat State has developed network preparedness plans in cases of emergency situations. Wheat State has sufficient capacity within its switching network to handle call spikes in emergency situations and its staff has been sufficiently trained of preparedness plans to minimize any and all outages during emergency situations.

411847KS1010

Response to Line 1010
Wheat State Telephone, Inc.
Study Area 411847

Voice Services Comparability Report

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(10) Wheat State Telephone, Inc. (Wheat State) is in compliance with the requirement that voice services is no more than two standard deviations above the national average urban rate for voice service of \$47.48 as specified in Public Notice DA 15-470 issued on April 16, 2015. Wheat State's current total local end-user rate¹ of \$18.19 (which includes a local fee of \$16.75 and mandated state fees of \$1.44) is not above the standard deviation as specified in the USF/ICC Transformation Order.²

¹ Local End User Rate as defined in USF/ICC Transformation Order 26 FCC Red at 17751, Para. 238

² USF/ICC Transformation Order, 26 FCC Red at 17694, Para. 84 (footnote included) "The standard deviation is a measure of dispersion. The sample standard deviation is the square root of the sample variance. The sample variance is calculated as the sum of the squared deviations of the individual observations in the sample of data from the sample average divided by the total number of observations in the sample minus one. In a normal distribution, about 68 percent of the observations lie within one standard deviation above and below the average and about 95 percent of the observations lie within two standard deviations above and below the average."

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES

2.1 LOCAL ACCESS

- 2.11 This tariff is subject to and governed by the general rules and regulations, as they now exist or as they may be revised, added to or supplemented by superseding pages or issues.
- 2.12 The schedules of monthly rates for local access service applicable within the various exchange areas for the services offered therein are shown in this tariff. Local access service as offered in this tariff is provided by serving central office line equipment and all outside plant facilities needed to connect the serving central office with the customer premises, up to and including the network interface device (NID). The NID is the demarcation point between Company provided facilities and customer provided facilities.
- 2.13 The monthly local access rates shown in this tariff are payable in advance and entitle the customer to exchange dial telephone service through company-owned facilities.
- 2.14 Rates for Local Access Service, per month.

(C)	A. Business, 1 party.	\$19.75	(1)
	B. Residence, 1 party.	\$16.75	
(C)	C. Trunks	\$19.75	(1)

When a multi-line business customer uses their own equipment to channelize local service at a DS-1 level, the Federal End User Common Line Charge will apply at a ratio of five (5) per DS-1.

2.15. Kansas Universal Service Fund

Beginning March 1, 1997, the Company will assess a fee for funding of the Kansas Universal Service Fund (KUSF), including Kansas Lifeline Service Program (KLSP), and the Kansas Telecommunications Access Program (TAP). These funds were enacted by the Kansas Legislature in 1996, and authorized by the Kansas Corporation Commission on December 27, 1996 in Docket No. 190,492-U. The amount of the fee may vary as determined by the fund administrator.

2.16 Lifeline Service Program

- A. The Lifeline service (Lifeline) program, sponsored by the Federal Communications Commission, is a program designed to maintain and preserve universal service by providing a reduction in the price of basic residential local exchange service to qualifying low-income customers.

(T) B. General

- (T) (C) (R) 1. Lifeline is a federally funded reduction of local service charges. Eligible applicants will receive a reduction of \$9.25 on their local telephone bill.
- a. Lifeline customers will also receive additional Lifeline service reductions in intrastate local service of \$7.77.
- b. The maximum Lifeline benefit should not exceed mandatory customer charges attributable to the provision of local service.

(T) C. Program Eligibility Requirements

- (T) 1. Lifeline will be provided for one (1) telephone line per household at the customer's principal place of residence where there is only one active local exchange access line to his/her residential premises or dwelling place.¹ A room or portion of a residence occupied exclusively by an individual not sharing equally as a member of the domestic establishment may be considered a separate dwelling unit (premises). Verification of this requirement will be through self-certification.

- (T) 2. To be eligible for Lifeline assistance, a customer may qualify under either of the following criteria:

- (T) a. The customer must show they are currently a recipient of benefits from one of the following public assistance programs:

- (T) 1. Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- (N) 2. Food Distribution Program
3. Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations
4. Free School Lunch Program
5. General Assistance
6. Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP)
7. Medicaid
8. Section 8 Federal Public Housing Program
9. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
10. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
11. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
12. Tribally Administered Free School Lunch Program
13. Tribally Administered Head Start (only those meeting its income qualifying standard)
- (T) 14. Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

¹ A residential premises or dwelling place is that location where a customer resides, even if such residential premises or dwelling place is only a single room. Lifeline will not be provided if the customer has access to other local exchange telephone service within the residential premises or dwelling place, provided/owned by himself/herself or owned/provided by others. If, however, it can be determined by the Company that access to other existing local exchange telephone service owned/provided by others is virtually denied, or is inaccessible to the customer, then Lifeline service will be provided.

(T) The customer must obtain and provide to the Company a copy of a valid identification card or the appropriate documents that are issued to them by the agency administering the program.

- b. A customer shall be eligible for the Lifeline Service program if that customer's household income level is at or below 150% of the federal poverty level. Such customers may obtain a form from the Company suitable for self-certification of income level, and provide the completed form to the Company to begin service under the program. Proof of income is required. Acceptable documentation may include the prior year's federal, state, or tribal tax return, or other forms of income certification. Customers should contact the Company for specific details.

(D)

(T) D. Certification

1. The customer will certify eligibility for Lifeline Service. Recertification is required annually or at anytime the qualifying criteria for the customer changes.
2. Recipients of Lifeline service must notify the Company when they no longer qualify for Lifeline service. Upon receipt of the notification, the Company will discontinue Lifeline service.
3. If the Company discovers that conditions exist that disqualify the recipient of Lifeline service, local service will be billed at the full rate. The customer will be billed retroactively either to the date Lifeline service commenced or the date the recipient no longer qualified for the service, not to exceed twelve (12) months.

(T) E. Rules and Regulations

1. Local service for Lifeline customers may be disconnected for non-payment of toll charges.
2. Toll restriction service will be provided to Lifeline customers at no charge.
3. Lifeline customers may be required to accept toll restriction service as a condition to avoid disconnection of local service for non-payment of toll.
4. Lifeline customers are not required to pay a deposit in order to obtain local service if the customer voluntarily elects installation of toll restriction service.
5. Partial payments from Lifeline customers will be applied first to local service charges and then to toll charges.

Issued: June 28, 2012

Effective: August 1, 2012

Gregory Reed, President
Wheat State Telephone Company, Inc.
106 W. First Street, P.O. Box 320
Udall, Kansas 67146

6. Lifeline customers will not be denied re-establishment of service on the basis that the customer was previously disconnected for non-payment of toll charges.

7. Lifeline will not be furnished on a foreign exchange service arrangement.

(T) F. Credit and Collections

(T) 1. If a Lifeline applicant is known to have a poor credit history, a deposit may be required.

(T) 2. Once service has been established for a Lifeline customer, they will be subject to bill payment policies contained in this tariff applicable to all customers.

(D)

2.17 Local Calling Services

A. MetroOne Optional Local Calling Plan

1. Service Description

MetroOne (MO) allows customers to make 1+ customer-dialed station-to-station calls from their exchange to one or more designated exchanges or zones of exchanges, as specified in paragraph 4.b), following, under the rates set forth in paragraph 4.a), following. Calling services contained in this service offering are considered local calls.

2. Regulations

- a. MO is offered to all classes and grades of residence and business customers located in the exchanges specified in this tariff.
- b. This service applies on a per line basis to all exchange access lines that are group billed.
- c. The minimum contract period for this service is 30 days.
- d. Applicable non-recurring charges will apply as set forth herein.
- e. The MO Initial Period Charge described following, applies to each exchange access line on a per line basis in addition to the local exchange service rates as specified elsewhere in this tariff.

Issued: June 28, 2012

Effective: August 1, 2012

Gregory Reed, President
Wheat State Telephone Company, Inc.
106 W. First Street, P.O. Box 320
Udall, Kansas 67146

- (T)
6. Lifeline customers will not be denied re-establishment of service on the basis that the customer was previously disconnected for non-payment of toll charges.
 7. Lifeline will not be furnished on a foreign exchange service arrangement.
- G. Credit and Collections
1. If a Lifeline or Link-Up applicant is known to have a poor credit history, a deposit may be required.
 2. Once service has been established for a Lifeline or Link-Up customer, they will be subject to bill payment policies contained in this tariff applicable to all customers.
- (T)
3. There are no restrictions as to the number of service connections per year for which qualifying low-income customers who relocate may receive Link-Up support.

(T) (M) 2.17 Local Calling Services

A. MetroOne Optional Local Calling Plan

1. Service Description

MetroOne (MO) allows customers to make 1+ customer-dialed station-to-station calls from their exchange to one or more designated exchanges or zones of exchanges, as specified in paragraph 4.b), following, under the rates set forth in paragraph 4.a), following. Calling services contained in this service offering are considered local calls.

2. Regulations

- a. MO is offered to all classes and grades of residence and business customers located in the exchanges specified in this tariff.
- b. This service applies on a per line basis to all exchange access lines that are group billed.
- c. The minimum contract period for this service is 30 days.
- d. Applicable non-recurring charges will apply as set forth herein.
- e. The MO Initial Period Charge described following, applies to each exchange access line on a per line basis in addition to the local exchange service rates as specified elsewhere in this tariff.

(M)

Issued: November 17, 2011

Effective: December 17, 2011

Gregory Reed, President
Wheat State Telephone Company, Inc.
106 W. First Street, P.O. Box 320
Udall, Kansas 67146

Response to Line3010
Wheat State Telephone, Inc.
Study Area 411847

Milestone Certification

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.202(a) Wheat State Telephone, Inc. ("Wheat State") provides this certification that it is taking reasonable steps to provide upon reasonable request broadband speeds of at least 4 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream, with latency suitable for real-time applications, including Voice over Internet Protocol, and usage capacity that is reasonably comparable to offerings in urban areas as determined in an annual survey as specified in Public Notice DA 15-470, and that requests for such service are met within a reasonable amount of time. Details for how Wheat State is meeting its obligations for broadband goals and required obligations are specified within the FCC Form 481 annual filing.

Response Line 3017
Wheat State Telephone, Inc.
Study Area 411847

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